June 13, 2021  11th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

St. Joseph  A community of faith growing in God’s love
Catholic Church

91 Stillhouse Rd., Millstone Twp., NJ 08510  732-792-2270

The Kingdom Of God Is
WITHIN YOU
Find it

MASS
Saturday
5:00 PM
SUNDAY
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM
Mon. Tues. Wed. Fri.
9:00 AM
Masses are also livestreamed

SERVED BY
Rev. Michael P. Lang, Pastor
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CONNECT
Fax: 732-792-2271
Website:
www.stjosephmillstone.org
Facebook:
@stjosephchurchmillstone
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@frmlkestjoseph
Some thoughts from Fr. Mike…

Dear Friends,

This is the time of year where we get to see the miracle of growth taking place all around us in flowers, trees, plants and shrubs. Sometimes the scene we get to take in is so magnificent that words cannot fully capture the cycle of nature blossoming forth in all its beauty. We do not have to be professional gardeners to appreciate the gradual process of growth. What we view is a gradual process that takes time. It all begins with tiny seeds being buried in the earth requiring time and patience for the fullness to be completed.

Our Scripture Readings are also concerned with growth or more specifically, spiritual growth. The Readings speak of the importance of coming to God in prayer and good works in order to grow in our relationship with God. God is at work in every age and in every life. The seed of God’s Word was first planted in our hearts by prayers and the Sacraments. These gifts from God dispose us to perform good works and acts of loving kindness. In this way we make ready the soil of our lives in which the seed of God’s Word can blossom. There is no age at which we cannot grow in God’s grace. There is not past experience that can prevent God’s Word from taking root is we desire it to do so. God’s Word, God’s grace and God’s love are not rewards for doing the right thing. These gifts are planted in every heart. Whether they grow, blossom and become what God intended them to be is up to us. When well-nourished and with a lot of patient endurance, God’s gifts can bloom in something that is beyond our dreams.

Peace, prayers and love to all of you,
Fr Mike
DAILY MASS
There will not be morning Mass on Friday, June 18.

REGISTRATION FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
Registration documents for the 2021-2022 Session is now taking place. Registration materials may be printed from the Parish website at https://www.stjosephmillstone.org/prep-parish-religious-education-program. Please be sure to print the correct forms. There is one for returning students and one for new students. You may drop off registrations or mail them. The plan right now is that Religious Education Classes will be in person in the Fall.

ALTAR SERVERS
While we are still not at the point of being able to have Altar Servers serve as normal, we are safe to allow one Altar Server to carry the Cross in procession at Mass at the start and end of Mass. The Altar Server would carry in the Cross and then sit with his/her family and then then carry the Cross for the recessional at the end of Mass. If your child is an Altar Server and willing to do this, you may simply let Fr. Mike know when you arrive at Mass -- if no one else is already doing it, then your child may do be the Cross bearer. Please note that you will have to arrive at Church early enough to give your child enough time to put on the Alb. Thanks!

WELCOME...
As a parish community we joyfully welcome:

Samantha Laverne Kemble

who was received into God’s family and the Church through the Sacrament of Baptism. Let us lift this little one up in our prayers.

READERS CLUB
The Club has chosen "The Guest List" by Lucy Foley as our next selection. On an island off the coast of Ireland, guests gather to celebrate two people joining their lives together as one. The wedding celebration turns dark and deadly in this wicked and atmospheric thriller reminiscent of Agatha Christie. The time and date for discussion of the book is June 24 at 7:00 PM. We plan on meeting outside on Church grounds or by ZOOM if there is rain. For information about the Readers’ Club or to receive emails about meetings, etc. contact Fran - ambiofran@gmail.com

FOOD COLLECTION
Thank you for your continued generosity with the food donations during these trying months. There will always be a need for assistance with food for many people so we will continue to collect food, paper goods and toiletries in the bins inside the church entrances. After the first and third Sundays of the month volunteers will deliver the donated items to the Millstone Community Center where they are greatly appreciated and will reach those in need. Thank you again for your generosity.
LIFTING OF THE DISPENSATION FROM ATTENDING MASS IN PERSON
The Bishops of the five Dioceses of New Jersey have announced that the dispensation of the Sunday and Holy Days Mass obligation that has been in place during the pandemic will be lifted as of June 5, 2021. The following is the announcement from the Bishops:

“At this time, due to the observance of public safety protocols and the increase in the availability of vaccines, we have begun a return to some sense of normalcy in various sectors of our society. Therefore, we the Catholic Bishops of New Jersey, are lifting the dispensation of the Sunday and Holy Days Mass obligation beginning on Saturday, June 5, 2021, and Sunday, June 6, 2021, Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. We welcome the Christian faithful to return to the regular participation in the Sunday Eucharist, the source and summit of our Catholic faith (cf. Code of Canon Law canon 1247 and Catechism of the Catholic Church, n. 2180). This obligation does not apply to those who are ill; those who have reason to believe that they were recently exposed to the coronavirus or another serious or contagious illness; those who are confined to their home, a hospital, or nursing facility; or those with serious underlying health conditions. One should consult the local pastor if questions arise about the obligation to attend Mass (canon 87). Finally, safety protocols (such as wearing masks, social distancing, etc.) and liturgical directives in each New Jersey Diocese remains in place until modified or revoked by the respective Diocesan Bishop.”

COVID19 RESTRICTIONS UPDATE
MASS RELATED POLICIES
- As of June 5 (Saturday) the mask mandate will be lifted for the parish. However, please remember that the CDC guidelines are that those who have not been vaccinated should continue to wear a mask for indoor gatherings (for your protection and the protection of others who are not vaccinated). Additionally, anyone who is more comfortable with a mask, may continue to use the mask. Your choice to do so will be respected by all.
- For at least a couple of weeks we will continue to practice social distancing at Mass. This means we will continue to seat people in every other row with separation. In a couple of weeks I will evaluate how things are going in other parishes and see if we can also change this.
- While we are observing social distancing in the church, Communion will continue to be brought to you. Stand to receive Communion.
- Communion will continue to be offered with the Precious Bread (the Cup will not be offered yet). Communion will continue to be offered only in the hand.
- Priest/Deacon/Eucharistic Minister will continue to wear a mask for the distribution of Communion.
- Priest/Deacon/Eucharistic Ministers will continue to sanitize hands prior to distribution of the Eucharist.
- The sign of peace will continue to be offered with a wave or nod and the exchange of "Peace be with you."
- We will continue to leave the Offertory as it is while we observe social distancing at Mass (the bread and wine will not be presented and the offertory basket will be on a table for your offerings).
- While observing social distancing we will continue to use one door for entry into the church. You may continue to leave by any door.
- Priest/Deacon will continue to refrain from shaking hands to greet people prior to Mass.
All of the above policies will be reevaluated in a couple of weeks and adjusted as we go.

NONE MASS RELATED POLICIES
- Groups and Ministries may now resume meetings. Masks are not mandated, however the CDC guidelines for those who are not vaccinated should be observed. Anyone who is more comfortable with a mask, is free to do so.
- Handouts at meetings may be used.
- Food/beverages may be offered but great care should be exercised with the handling of food.
RCIA - Rite of Initiation of Adults
The RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is a wonderful faith journey for those who wish to be Baptized, those who are Baptized and are now interested are interested in joining the Catholic Church and those who have not completed the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation). The RCIA is a journey of faith where people are encouraged to discern God’s call in their lives. It is not a typical classroom setting. Our Catholic beliefs are introduced and explained and participants in the RCIA are encouraged to see how our beliefs, practices, Liturgies and Sacraments can have an impact in everyday situations. Anyone and everyone is invited to "come and see" to find out if the RCIA process is what you are being drawn to in your life. RCIA sessions are ready to resume, although at this time the meetings will be help outdoors or via Zoom. If you are interested or would like more information, contact Fr. Mike – frmkestjoseph@optonline.net or 732-792-2270.

GOLF OUTING – Come and join us
The Annual Golf Outing, sponsored by the Men’s Guild, will take place on Thursday, September 16 at the Forsgate Country Club in Monroe. The event is always a great time. Information about the Golf Outing and the registration brochure are available on the Parish website - - https://www.stjosephmillstone.org/golf-outing. Sponsors are welcome. There are a wide range of sponsorship opportunities. It is a great way to advertise your business and help support a worthy cause. You can view the sponsorship opportunities on the Golf Outing brochure. For information about the Golf Outing or to become a sponsor, contact Dave - dcerulosr@gmail.com or 732-781-6623 or Vince - iuzzolino5@optonline.net or 732-303-0822.

SUNDAY MASS – The public celebration of Sunday Mass takes place on Saturday evening at 5:00 PM and Sunday morning at 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM. Masses continue to be live streamed at https://vimeo.com/event/106444, on our parish website at www.stjosephmillstone.org/live-stream on our Facebook Page www.facebook.com/stjosephchurcmillstone and on the Parish YouTube channel www.youtube.com/c/StJosephChurchMillstoneTwp

DAILY MASS
The public gathering for Mass takes place at 9:00 AM on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. Mass continues to be live streamed at 9:00 AM on those days. If you miss the live stream, it is recorded and available to watch later on. The links for the live stream of daily Mass are the same as those for Sunday Mass which you can find in the Sunday Mass announcement above this announcement.

BAPTISMS
We are scheduling Baptisms. Those who would like to schedule a Baptism, may call the parish office to schedule the Baptism of your child.

STAY CONNECTED – FIND THE LATEST NEWS
Don’t forget to stay in touch with parish events through social media. Find out what is going on at our website at www.stjosephmillstone.org. Connect with the parish on Facebook. Give our page a like to keep informed about events. You can find the parish page on Facebook at St. Joseph Catholic Church Millstone Twp. NJ or @stjosephchurchmillstone. Stay informed stay connected!
HELP US TO BE IN TOUCH WITH YOU
The Parish uses Flocknotes which is a program to send out email and text messages to parishioners. This will allow us to stay in touch about parish events, emergency closings and important information. To benefit from this, you must sign up with your cell phone number and/or email address. In the present time, it is important that we have a way to get news out to everyone. We will use Flocknotes to let parents know if Religious Education classes are canceled and we send out reminders about scheduled closings for holidays, etc. It is easy to be on the notification list – just text the code sjmill to 84576 and follow the prompts. You may also go to our website to be included – stjosephmillstone.org/flocknotes. Just enter your information and follow the prompts. You can then select the groups that you want information from. All information is confidential. Others are not able to view your information. Please remember that email and text message will be sent from Flocknotes. Thanks!

A convenient way to donate is through online Parish Giving. This is offered free of charge to you so that you may make donations by credit card or transfer from your checking account. Check it out at WWW.stjosephmillstone.org and click on “Contribute/Donate” then click on the link for Electronic Giving. You can then set up an account or choose a onetime donation without an account. If you have any questions about this, please email or leave a message for Fr. Mike

SHOP AT AMAZON - SUPPORT THE PARISH
Help support the parish by designating St. Joseph Church as the charity you wish to support. Eligible purchases will result in Amazon donating a portion to the parish. You do have to designate St. Joseph Church, Millstone Twp. as your charity. You also have to use the Amazon Smile site instead of the normal Amazon site. Go to http://smile.amazon.com/ch/22-6103657 (a direct link) or go to our website and click the link. Thanks for your support!
PARISH INFORMATION
Parish Office: 732-792-2270
Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9:30AM - 2:30PM
Mailing Address: 91 Stillhouse Road
Millstone Twp, NJ 08510
WWW.STJOSEPHMILLSTONE.ORG

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Michael P. Lang - Pastor
frmikestjoseph@optonline.net

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Carmen Santos, Pastoral Associate
carmenstjoseph@optonline.net

Kristine Reide, Music Ministry Leader
Kris0373@aol.com

MASS TIMES

Saturday Evening - 5:00 PM

Sunday Morning - 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

Mon, Tues, Wed & Fri - 9:00AM

Holy Days: as listed in the bulletin

Confessions: At this time, Confessions are offered by appointment only.

BAPTISM – The Sacrament of Baptism is normally celebrated on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month at 12:30 PM. Parents are asked to register for a Baptism Preparation Session prior to the Baptism. Baptisms must be scheduled in advance by calling the Parish Office. Sponsors must obtain Sponsor forms from their home parish – Sponsors must be active practicing Catholics. The Sacrament of Baptism is not celebrated during the Season of Lent.

Marriage – Diocesan policy requires that arrangements for Marriage be made one (1) year in advance of the wedding. Refer any questions to the Pastor.

Sick Calls – Please contact the Parish Office when someone is seriously ill requiring a visit by a Priest. If someone is unable to attend Mass on a regular basis and would like to receive Communion please call the Parish Office

Registration – We are glad you are here and want you to feel like a full member of the parish. Registering as a parishioner helps us to know who you are and to stay in touch. Registration is required for sponsor forms.

Sponsor Certificates – This is a form required to be a Godparent or Sponsor for Confirmation. To receive a form, the following is required: -Be a registered, active (attends Mass) member of the parish (for at least 6 months); be at least 16 years of age; must have completed the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation; If married, have a valid marriage within the Church.